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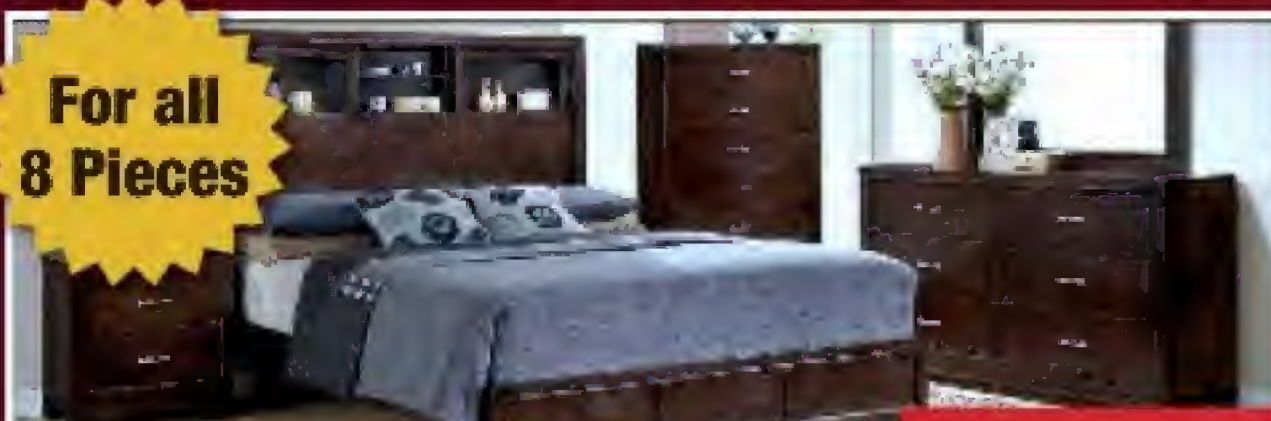


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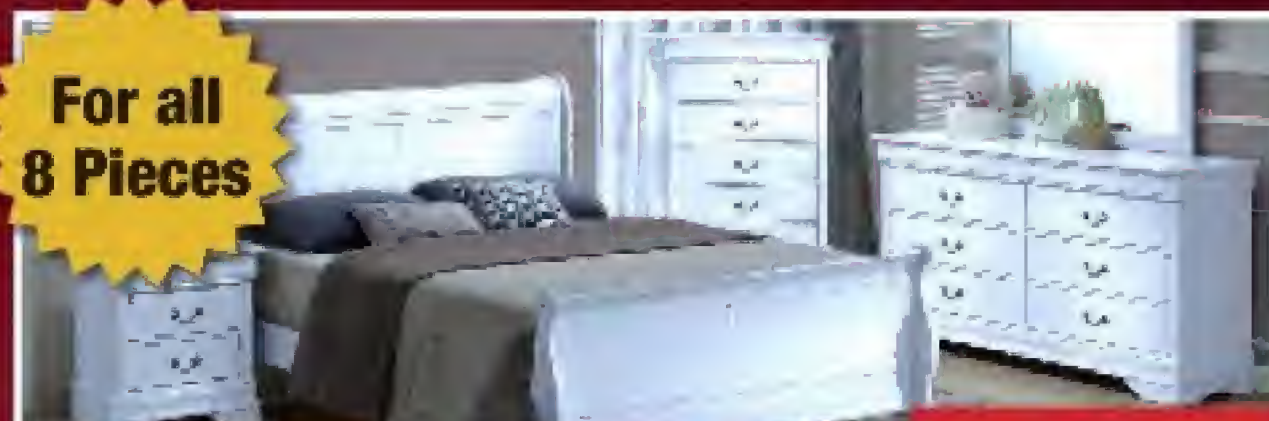


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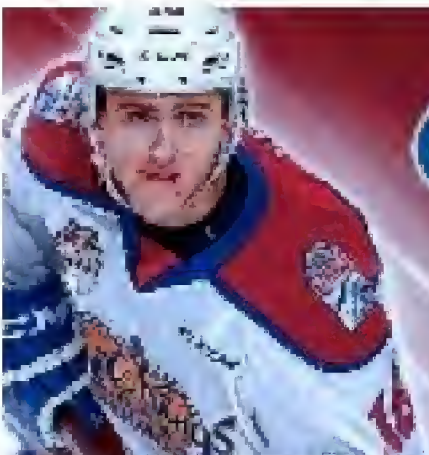




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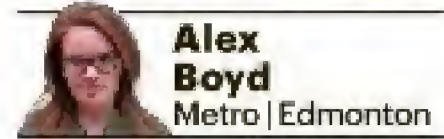


Why songbirds hate the suburbs
metroSCIENCE

Your essential daily news | WEEKEND, JANUARY 6-8, 2017 High -13°C/Low -19°C Cold returns

Cybercrime on campus

ATTACK
U of A student charged after malware found



A University of Alberta student faces several cyber crime charges after malware was discovered on more than 300 university-owned computers.

The university says on Nov. 22 it found malware designed to steal users' campus computing ID on school computers, and that more than 3,300 faculty, staff and students are potentially affected.

The ID gives university staff and faculty access to everything from campus email to banking information for employees.

Yibin Xu, 19, is charged with mischief in relation to computer data, unauthorized use of computer services, fraudulently intercepting functions of a computer system and use of a computer

system with intent to commit an offence.

Edmonton police investigated after they were informed of a malware infection on the university's network in late November.

According to an email sent to all staff and students Thursday, the university first found malware on 287 computers.

Then, on Dec. 8, malware was found on another 17 computers, which affected another 19 students.

The university said after the second discovery, its information technology department made all 3,323 users who had used the infected computers change their passwords.

Gordie Mah, the university's chief information security officer, said the malware would have been installed by someone with physical access to the computers.

He said the malware itself was quickly contained and removed.

While Mah said malware is not uncommon, the scale and scope of this attack was unusual. "It was a higher level of sophistication than is usually seen," he said.



The United States' Luke Kunin celebrates his team's second goal on Canada's Carter Hart in Montreal on Thursday.
RYAN REMIORZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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GROWING PAINS

Waiting for the Rogers Place boon

With Earth's General Store warning of closure, Metro sees how other businesses on 104 Street are doing

JEREMY SIMES METRO

Business owners on Edmonton's 104 Street have mixed emotions about commerce on the strip, the centre of its narrative of downtown revitalization.

Rogers Place and glitzy new developments surround 104 Street. Yet with news Wednesday that Earth's General Store will close its 104 Street location by July if its sales don't grow, Metro decided to take the pulse of one of Edmonton's most vital arteries.

Crickets forever?

Louis Hamel, co-owner of Careit Urban Deli, said his business dies after 2 p.m.

"There is no traffic after that; there is nothing," Hamel said. "We do have busy lunches, for sure. But after that, it's just crickets."

But down the street, in the shadow of Rogers Place, Mercer Tavern general manager Jeff Lesik said his pub is full on game nights and when there are events.

"It sucks these small businesses are closing down because there's just Rogers Place right now," he said. "Give it a couple of years and you're going to have a lot more."

Proponents of Rogers Place have said it will be a boon for business. The city says the arena has driven \$2 billion in downtown investment.

But is that boon leading to sales for all the businesses along the street? Hamel said it isn't yet for Careit, which opened in April 2016. He had a sandwich and drink combo for \$10 on evenings before games to drum up business, but it didn't work.

"It's not as busy as we thought it would be," he said. "I just don't think downtown is where it says it is. It might be the econ-

omy, but I think the parking, too, is a problem — many people just don't want to pay for it."

Transition to something better?

Brad Kahler, co-owner of boutique The Helm Clothing, says there's more to success than foot traffic.

"The street is great, but it just takes more work than having a street front," he said. "It's about relationships, and giving customers reasons to come down here."

"I didn't expect to see great things happen when the arena opened, but once there are more people living here, that will help."

Ian O'Donnell, executive director of the Downtown Business Association, said 104 Street is in transition, with new residential buildings opening up.

"The hope is visitors see other retail and offerings downtown and, the next time they come by, they shop or pop in that night."

Still, O'Donnell said it's a tough time for businesses across Edmonton thanks to the lagging economy. Rima Devitt, co-owner of Blue Plate Diner, which has

been a 104 Street icon for 13 years, said she's noticed the effects of the economic downturn.

"I think people imagined there would be this explosion of business once Rogers Place opened, and I think it will just take time before we see more and more people trying out businesses," she said.

Clockwise from top left: Helm's Alana Connon and Brad Kahler; Careit's Cam Jordan; Rima Devitt of Blue Plate and Mercer's Jeff Lesik.

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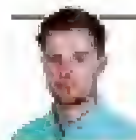
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FIRST RESPONDERS

Union wins lawsuit against regulator



Jeremy Simes
Metro | Edmonton

The union representing Alberta emergency first responders has won a lawsuit against the Alberta College of Paramedics.

A judge ruled the college can't require members to disclose health information through registration forms.

The Health Sciences Association of Alberta (HSAA) launched the lawsuit in December, 2015, after the college declined to renew the license of one EMS member who had reported they were diagnosed and treated for post traumatic stress disorder.

After that incident, the HSAA found the ACP had been asking members to disclose legal and medical issues, resulting in some delays or denials for registrations.

"We take the invasion of

privacy into our members very seriously. It was fundamentally wrong," said HSAA vice-president Trudy Thomson. "Getting your license affects your ability to work and that is why we got involved."

In the lawsuit, the HSAA argued the college had overstepped its authorities by changing forms without the go-ahead from Alberta's Minister of Health. However, the ACP argued the matter was moot because the college moved from the Health Disciplines Act to the Health Professions Act.

Becky Donelon, deputy registrar with the ACP, said the college is still determining what it will do next, and can appeal the decision if it wants.

According to a memo by HSAA President Mike Parker, the judge in the case ruled the information asked by the college was outside of what's appropriate for a registration form.

TRANSPORTATION

Turbulent start for NewLeaf airline

Things are off to a turbulent start for new travel company and virtual airline NewLeaf.

After a stop-and-go start last January, in which the airline had to suspend customer bookings until a licensing dispute was resolved with the Canadian Transportation Agency (CTA), it finally launched again in June 2016.

Problems arose over the holidays for the airline, which provides "ultra-low cost" travel options for Canadians, when numerous flights were cancelled

resulting in major delays — some as long as 17 hours.

David Atkins, director of commercial operations for Flair Air, which NewLeaf contracts to provide airplanes, said the issues New Year's Eve night were the result of a "perfect storm," including two out-of-commission de-icing machines and bad weather.

Atkins said they're conducting a full investigation, adding that "we definitely needed some better communication."

LUCIE EDWARDSON/METRO



After months of doubt, para-bobsledder Brian McPherson will get to compete in Europe this year after all. CONTRIBUTED

Para-bobsledder back on World Cup track

ATHLETICS

McPherson 'overwhelmed' by support for fundraising



Alex Boyd
Metro | Edmonton

Several donations have allowed an Edmonton para-bobsled athlete, who was struggling to raise funds to compete on the World Cup circuit this year in Europe, to board a plane.

Brian McPherson said he's

paid for his flights and hotels and leaves next week — though he's still trying to raise a bit more money.

"There's a big sigh of relief that I'm going and as of yesterday it's booked, so I'm getting there and I have a place to rest my head," McPherson said. "I'll figure out the rest as I go."

The former wheelchair basketball and sledge hockey player helped create the para-bobsled event almost a decade ago. He's been a member of Team Canada ever since.

McPherson bobsleds solo.

But last year he sat out the season because of an injury,



There's a big sigh of relief that I'm going.

Brian McPherson

and his previous sponsors, feeling the pressure of the economic downturn, could no longer support him.

This time last month, McPherson's was doubting if he could compete this coming season.

He told Metro in December he was doing everything he could to raise money.

"I'd give up both my arms if I could do it, but those are the last two limbs I have so I kind of need them," he joked at the time.

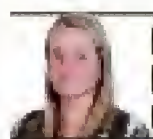
But since then, McPherson said he's been "overwhelmed" by the support he's received.

URO Medical Supplies from Saskatchewan paid for his flights, and a stream of smaller donations have paid for hotels.

"I started studying the tracks, probably about a week ago, and now that it's official I'm just focusing on that," he said. "It's a long flight so I should have a lot of time to do it."

EDUCATION

Trinity deal puts group out of the picture



Lucie Edwardson
Metro | Calgary

Trinity Christian School Association is back in business — but this time without the controversial WISDOM Home Schooling Society.

Back in October, the home-schooling association was shut down by the province after they alleged the group pocketed nearly \$1 million taxpayer dollars from Alberta Education that was meant to fund the education of thousands of

students. Trinity's registration and accreditation as a private school operator was cancelled.

A deal reached between Alberta Education and Trinity Christian School Association means additional oversight of operations, and stability for more than 3,500 students, according to the province — but it also means WISDOM will no longer be involved in any of the governance or financial involvement in the education of students.

In a news release, the province said the agreement filed in a Grand Prairie court Thursday

is the end of the legal battle between Alberta Education and Trinity.

Education Minister David Eggen said they will appoint a financial administrator, for at least a year, to help Trinity's board of directors in developing financial policies and practices that meet taxpayer expectations. The administrator will also have oversight over public funding directed to Trinity.

"Our priority has been ensuring that the funding we provide for education is being used to support students. We

believe that today's agreement achieves this goal. It also ensures stability for more than 3,500 Alberta students," he said. "I stand behind the actions we have taken in this matter and officials will now move to assisting Trinity with developing governance and accounting practices that are at the standard expected by Alberta taxpayers."

Justice Minister Kathleen Ganley echoed these sentiments at a press conference Thursday and said the administrator will play a vital role in ensuring funds reach students.



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ENERGY EFFICIENCY

Alberta issues carbon tax rebate cheques

The next stage of Alberta's carbon plan is under way, with carbon tax rebate cheques arriving to low and middle-income families.

Deputy premier Sarah Hoffman said Thursday the rebate should offset the costs of the new carbon tax for many families, and perhaps leave a bit of money left over.

"By taking some simple steps to increase energy efficiency, things like using energy efficient light bulbs (and) low-flow shower heads, you're not only helping

our environment but you're also saving yourself some money," said Hoffman, who made the announcement at an Edmonton home.

A single adult earning up to \$47,500 per year will receive a rebate of \$200, and a couple making a maximum combined \$95,000 per year will get \$300.

Parents that qualify will also get up to \$30 per child, to a maximum of four.

Rebates will rise in 2018, in tandem with the carbon levy, to

\$300 for singles, \$450 for couples and \$45 per child.

Full rebates will go to an estimated 60 per cent of Albertans. Partial rebates go to another six per cent.

The other third — those who make more than \$51,250 a year — receive no rebate at all.

The rebates are calculated and disbursed based on income tax returns.

The money is to offset the costs of the new carbon tax, which is hiking the price of gas

at the pumps and home heating bills.

The carbon tax is 4.5 cents per litre on gas and just over five cents a litre on diesel. Natural gas goes up by \$1.011 per gigajoule.

The government estimates that direct and indirect costs of the tax will be \$443 for the average family this year. Opposition parties say the true cost will be double that or more as the tax flows through the economy.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Teena Changarathil, supervisor of cemetery sales and operations with the city. KEVIN TUONG/FOR METRO

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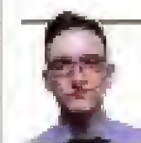
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Art among the dead

ARTIST RESIDENCY

Chosen artist will work with local cemeteries



Kevin Maimann
Metro|Edmonton

Here's an eerily good opportunity: The City of Edmonton will give one artist the chance of a lifetime, to work among the dead.

The Edmonton Arts Council has put out a call for applications to be the first artist-in-residence hosted by City of Edmonton Cemeteries.

The chosen artist will get to work on art in local cemeteries as a full-time job for six months, with a primary studio space on the second floor of a building at Mount Pleasant.

While some might find the space unnerving, Teena Changarathil, supervisor of cemetery sales and operations with the city, said it could be inspiring.

"It's very historic. A lot of

what we do with cemeteries is we have beautiful parkland, and it's really a warm and inviting place," Changarathil said.

"Once you get past the initial cemetery part of it and actually focus in on the area and the work that we do and our staff and the customers that we work with on a regular basis, the sombreness kind of fades away and the comfort and connections and history comes to light."

Some bodies buried in Mount Pleasant cemetery, at 54 Avenue and 106 Street, date back to the 1800s.

The building that houses the studio space sits on one of the city's highest geographical points, and also holds administrative offices and niches for cremated remains.

The selected artist will develop — sorry, we have to — a body of work throughout their residency and will showcase their final products with an exhibition at an undetermined location.

They will also engage with staff by offering art workshops and other interactive projects.

Feb. 1 is the application deadline.

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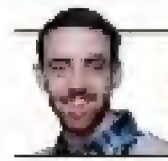


[†]Savings of up to 40% is applicable to Grand Sirenis Matlali Hills Resort & Spa and The Reserve at Paradisus Punta Cana Resort, for departure dates listed above. Savings reflected in advertised price. *Santo Domingo flights are in/out of Punta Cana with roundtrip transfers included. [†]Cruise package flights are in/out of Varadero with roundtrip transfers to and from Havana. [†]All inclusive cruise includes standard prepaid shipboard gratuities, unlimited beverages & one shore excursion per port. Additional conditions & restrictions apply. **Everything Under the Sun Event** is valid on new bookings from January 6-31, 2017, for travel until April 30, 2017. Flights are from Edmonton via Air Transat in economy class. Prices shown are per person, based on double occupancy in lead room category, unless otherwise stated. Space and prices are subject to availability at time of booking and subject to change without prior notice. Limited seats available at prices indicated: 20 per departure. Prices advertised are valid from January 6 to 9, 2017 only. Taxes and fees are extra and noted above. Travel Agency fees may apply. Ship's registry: Celestyal Cruises® - Malta. For full descriptions and terms and conditions, refer to transat.com. Transat is a division of Transat Tours Canada Inc., and is registered as a travel wholesaler in British Columbia (Reg #2454) with offices at 1090 West Pender Street, Suite 1110, Vancouver, BC, V6E 2N7.

N.Y. Times plugs Ottawa

PROFILE

Officials look forward to a potential tourism boost



Dylan C. Robertson
For Metro | Ottawa

Ottawa's tourist sector is celebrating a glowing New York Times report published Thursday, on the city "emerging from the shadow of Montreal and Toronto."

The paper's 36 Hours in Ottawa report invites visitors to poke around the Château Laurier, sip wine on Sparks Street and get "a consummately Canadian sugar rush" of BeaverTails.

"To get on people's wish lists, you need articles like this," says Ottawa Tourism spokeswoman Jantine Van Kregten. "You need concrete examples of why someone would want to go there."

A 2007 Times article with the same title stuck to downtown, but Thursday's story ventures to Hintonburg and Centretown, which Van Kregten says speaks



A glowing New York Times report "did a really good job at capturing Ottawa." ISTOCK

to the city's emerging neighbourhoods.

"The author did a really good job at capturing Ottawa," she said. "You can piece together a really kick-ass weekend by what the New York Times has shared."

Craig MacDonald, director of Ottawa Walking Tours, says media coverage plays a "huge" role in planting the idea of vis-

iting in someone's head, or solidifying it.

"The larger the newspaper, the more likely you are to have them come up here," said MacDonald, who's thrilled the U.S. dollar is keeping high as Canada 150 events kick off.

"We're looking forward to a fantastic year."

Unlike its January 2015 re-

port on the ByWard Market, the Times' opted against recommending the Wine Rack. That article "created some buzz" for Amanda May Lingerie.

"We had a lot of friends and family share the article which got us some new customers and had a few tourists over the summer stop by, thanks to the article," May said.

MEDIA

Buzz

Canada has made a lot of international news recently as a place to visit and watch. Here are some examples:

1. New York Times

delved into the differences between Canadian and American Thanksgiving

2. The Guardian

devoted a series to our country by launching Canada Week, with a peek at five Canadian cities

3. Lonely Planet

named Canada the best place to travel in 2017

4. Vogue

lusted over Prime Minister Justin Trudeau with an intimate photoshoot where he was pictured embracing wife Sophie Grégoire-Trudeau

TURKEY

Canadian charged for 'insulting' Erdogan

A Canadian woman has been arrested in Turkey for allegedly insulting the country's president in comments posted on Facebook, her Turkish lawyer said Thursday.

Ece Heper, 50, was arrested in the city of Kars in northeastern Turkey, and charged on Dec. 30, Sertac Celikkaleli said.

Heper, a dual Canadian-Turkish citizen, had been in the country since mid-November, according to her friends.

"She is intense and opinionated, for sure," Birgitta Pavic said from her Toronto home.

At issue, her friends and lawyer said, are several recent Facebook posts about President Recep Tayyip Erdogan.

In one posted on Dec. 28, Heper accused Erdogan of jailing journalists who suggest there is evidence Turkey is supporting Daesh.

Global Affairs Canada said they are aware of a Canadian citizen detained in Turkey and are providing consular assistance, but wouldn't divulge further information. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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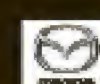
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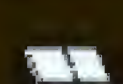


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Women's March our first step

Those who've signed on have agreed to fight for equality and inclusivity — and to stand united

ROSEMARY WESTWOOD
From the U.S.



Here's your motto for 2017, courtesy of the columnist Connie Schultz: "Your voice matters, but only if you use it."

Thus, hundreds of thousands marching in Washington and 47 U.S. states, never mind around the world, is a perfect start to the era of Trump. A critical, powerful first step to make dissenting voices heard.

And yet the Women's March on Washington — a movement set for Jan. 21 to defend the rights of women, LGBTQ people, Muslims and those of all faiths, racialized people and ultimately all people — has already been deemed useless by some.

Feminists are "making Trump's threat about themselves," argued Shikha Dalmia in The Week. Trump and his Republican-controlled cap-



Protesters rally against Donald Trump outside of Trump Tower in New York on Nov. 3. AFP/GETTY IMAGES

ital aren't actually a threat to women. It's just feminists getting hysterical, and responding with "a confused and pointless march," she writes.

Leaving aside the worn-out misogyny of arguing that the women's movement is a

shriek-fest, this kind of put-down — that the march isn't focused, that it has no clear purpose, that it's making a fuss that won't help — is the kind of pre-packaged criticism you could throw at any movement, of any era, at any time.

Those who've signed on

have in fact agreed to something: They've agreed to fight for equality, inclusivity, and to stand united against threats that will inevitably hit the most marginalized, first. And most importantly, they've agreed to be vocal about it.

The Women's March is a crucial first step in igniting widespread left-wing activism. It is an opportunity to galvanize action that will need to be sustained for years. It's a reminder to Republicans — who lost the popular vote, who gerrymandered and vote-suppressed their way into federal and state victories — that they have the entire rest of the country to answer to. Not just their voters.

The march defends women's reproductive rights and health care, and women's dignity in the face of Trumpian hyper-masculinity and its portrayal of women as "nasty." It rejects white supremacist sentiment. It stands up for women impacted by government policies that increase poverty.

Collective activism, widespread in scale and purpose, is the only thing that stands a chance of mitigating damage in the next four years. The march is only the beginning.

GLOBAL DIGEST

UNITED KINGDOM

Harry 'constantly in trouble,' Princess Diana letter says

Letters sent by Britain's late Princess Diana — including one in which she described a young Prince Harry as being "constantly in trouble" while at boarding school — sold for thousands of pounds at an auction Thursday. The six handwritten notes were sent to Cyril Dickman, a former head steward at Buckingham Palace, during the 1980s and 1990s. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

UNITED STATES

Hate-crime charges filed in Chicago attack

Four black people were charged with hate crimes Thursday in connection with a video broadcast live on Facebook that showed a mentally disabled white man being beaten and taunted, threatened with a knife and forced to drink from a toilet. The assault went on for hours, until Chicago police found the disoriented victim walking along a street. The suspects can be heard on the video using profanities against white people and Donald Trump. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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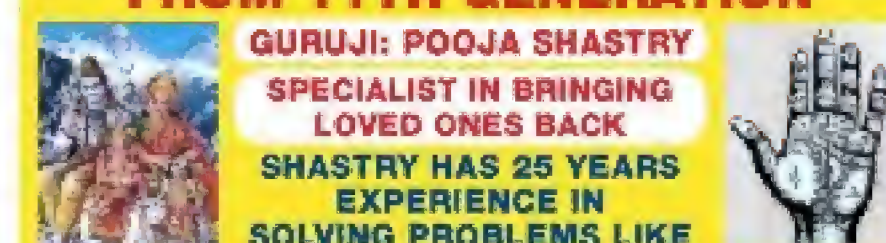
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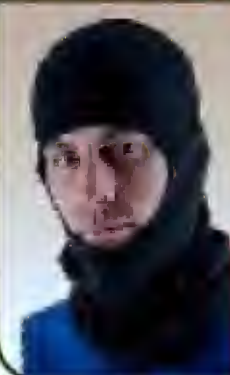
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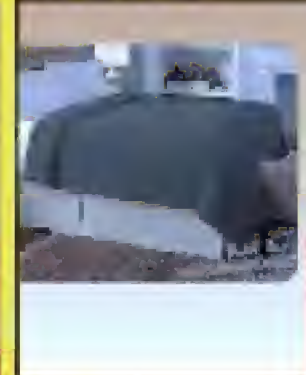
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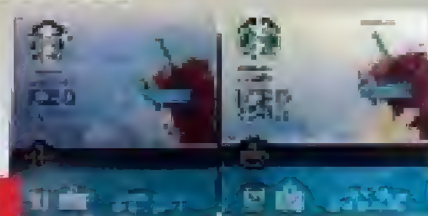
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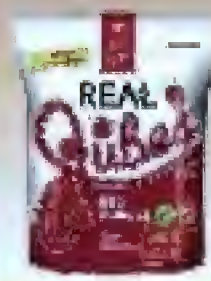
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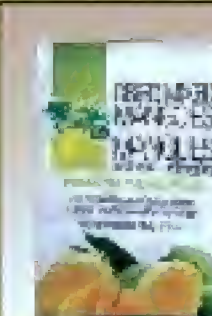
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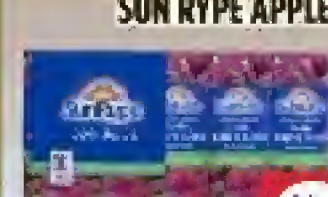
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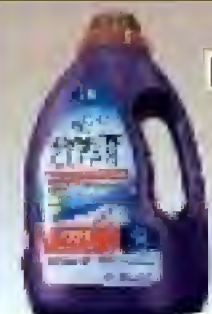
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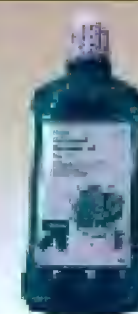
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ON THE VERGE OF GREAT SCIENCE

2016 was a standout year for science. Canadian researchers played a weighty role in observing gravitational waves for the first time, NASA's JUNO spacecraft arrived on Jupiter, and the gene-editing technology CRISPR came into its own. **2017 could be even more exciting. Here's what's on the global science agenda.**



The black hole in our backyard

If you think a solar eclipse is the coolest celestial scene we're going to see in 2017, think again. Early this year,

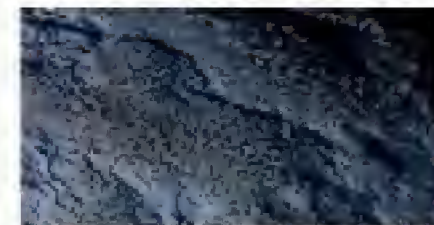
scientists are set to take the first-ever snapshot of an event horizon — the "point of no return" — where stuff, like hot gas and dust, gets sucked into a black hole. The black hole in question, Sagittarius A*, is right at the centre of our very own Milky Way galaxy, just 26,000 light-

years away. If the predictions of Einstein's theory of general relativity are correct, it should appear as a crescent of bright gases surrounding a dark spot, and the size of the shadow it casts should be very close to current calculations. Talk about the ultimate test.



FINDINGS

Your week in science



NASA

PLUTO'S PENITENTES

Penitentes: spectacular spires of natural ice, stretching as far as the eye can see, are famously found in the Andes. Now York University researchers say penitentes made of methane and nitrogen are on Pluto, too.

SINGLE IN THE SUBURBS

Find suburbia depressing? It's not just you. When humans invade their forest homes, certain songbirds — including the Pacific wren and Swainson's thrush — flee the area, fail to breed bird babies, and even "divorce" from their long-term mates, says a 10-year study of the Seattle area.

SOUND SMART

TRANS NEPTUNIAN OBJECT

DEFINITION

A **trans-Neptunian object** is any object in our solar system that orbits beyond Neptune. Pluto is one **trans-Neptunian** object out of more than 70,000 that measure at least 100 km across.

USE IT IN A SENTENCE

Deborah is being such a pain that I'd love to stick her on a spaceship and send her to live on a **trans-Neptunian object** on the outer reaches of our solar system.

PHILOSOPHER CAT by Jason Logan

THERE IS TOO MUCH TENDENCY TO MAKING SEPARATE THE PHYSICAL AND THE MORAL FACTS OF THE UNIVERSE.



Philosopher cat now at www.mymetrostore.ca

2

Synthetic blood

Blood transfusions are a miracle of modern medicine. Before the science of blood typing became accurate and reliable in the 20th century, there wasn't much of anything to be done for someone who needed blood. But there's still a perplexing problem — transfusions require an endless supply of healthy human volunteers willing to donate. Soon, that could change. In 2017, a British clinical trial is going to transfuse volunteers with synthetic blood for the first time. Because the blood cells are grown from donated stem cells, it might be more accurately called engineered or lab-grown blood. Whatever we call it, it could revolutionize medical care for people who've suffered from bleeding or bleeding disorders.

3

Planet 9 from outer space

Far, far, away, but in our galaxy, scientists believe there's a large, icy planet on the outer edge of our solar system. It only orbits Earth once every 15,000 years or so. We haven't seen it (just objects orbiting it), but several teams around the world have telescopes trained on the spot they believe Planet 9 may be lurking.



Quantum computers

All modern computing is based on binary code: A series of numbers called "bits" that can be in one of two states: 0 or 1. Because quantum physics is crazy, tiny subatomic particles (like photons, the stuff light is made of) can be in more than one state at the same time (such as up, down, or both). Because of this, quantum computers have the potential to do super-complex calculations today's computers can't handle. Until now, it's been mostly theoretical. But some scientists believe we'll see quantum computers IRL in 2017. Both Google and Microsoft have quantum projects in the works.

4

A major victory against malaria

2017 may well be remembered as the year we finally tamed one of the greatest killers in human history: Plasmodium, the mosquito-borne parasite that causes malaria. We're getting closer than ever to a malaria vaccine that actually works. And it's made of the malaria parasite itself, just engineered without three key genes that help it invade the liver. The first human trials, published this week in the

journal Science Translational Medicine, found the vaccine is safe, doesn't cause too many side effects, and stimulates the body's immune response to malaria. The coolest part? The researchers gave the dummy parasite to patients the same way they'd get the real one: not in a syringe, but through the bite of an infected mosquito. The next steps are to test it on more people and determine how vaccinated patients fare when exposed to the disease.

If the results are good, a vaccine will fight malaria in a way no insecticide, protective gear or bed netting could. Resolution 2018: Kiss malaria goodbye for good.



Richard Crouse

For Metro Canada



It's awards season, a heady time when the movie biz pats itself on the back for a job well done. Tuxedos are rented, Botox injected by the gallon and hundreds of miles of red carpets unfurled as industry insiders honour the best of the best with statues and speeches.

But is it really a time for celebration? The movie biz had a record-breaking year, raking in north of \$11.4 billion on the backs of, as one industry insider said, "a forgetful fish, infighting superheroes and some intergalactic rebels."

But for every *Finding Dory*, *Captain America* or *Rogue One*, which all earned good reviews and audience support, there were dozens of others that acted as public repellent, driving viewers away in droves. Those unsuccessful movies are dark clouds hanging heavy over the Hollywood landscape. Metro has some thoughts on how to clear the skies and ensure smooth sailing until Hollywood runs out of awards to hand out.

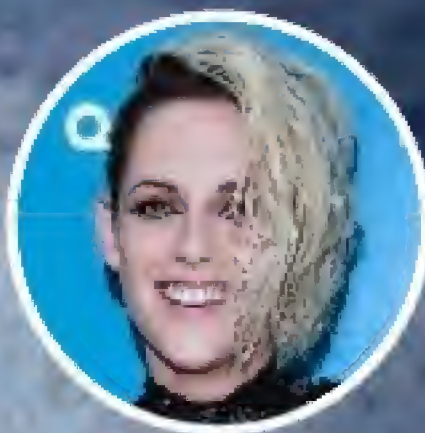
Let's spend more time watching imaginative new worlds and ideas brought to life on the screen. Give me more movies from Guillermo Del Toro, Edgar Wright and Andrea Arnold, filmmakers who constantly reinvent our relationship with story and cinema.

Although I'm looking forward to *John Wick 2* and *Skull Island*, let's cut back on the reboots, reimaginings, remakes and films with numbers in their titles.

Let Kristen Stewart do anything she wants. Her death-

Clouds over Hollywood

Awards season is upon us but with many questions hanging over the movie industry, it's not really time to celebrate. Here are Metro's thoughts on clearing the skies.



Hollywood is facing many questions about its future direction. Metro thinks greater influence and impact from the likes of, left to right, Ava DuVernay, Kristen Stewart and Guillermo Del Toro would go a long way to helping. GETTY IMAGES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

defying leap from a Young Adult idol to indie star has been inspiring to watch. She digs deeper and deeper with every role, distancing herself from the teeny-bopper image that defined the early part of her career. Her choices are wild and woolly and you don't know what to expect next from her. More please.

No more 'interesting' movies from Will Smith. His over-

thinking has done more collateral damage to his once towering career than his last

film, *Collateral Beauty*.

More convulsive belly laughs triggered by thought-

ful, interesting jokes please. That means fewer films that mistake politically incorrect "did he really just say that?" jokes for actual humour.

Can we have more reliance on the human touch on screen; directors like Jim Jarmusch, Mira Nair and Barry Jenkins who use instinct and experience to create their art.

Let's have less studio reliance on branding, formula and

script algorithms like ScriptBook, ScripThreads and Slatel. Successful movie ideas don't come from marketing departments or mathematical analysis, they come from the hearts and minds of interesting storytellers.

“

For every *Finding Dory*, *Captain America* or *Rogue One*, which all earned good reviews and audience support, there were dozens that acted as public repellent.

We need more films that pass both the Bechdel Test (does the movie feature a scene where two women discuss something other than a man?) as well as the DuVernay Test (do the African American and other minority characters have fully realized lives or are they just scenery in white stories?) If the answer is yes to either of these questions, you'll have more films that better reflect the world we live in.

Finally, it's time for Hollywood to be truly egalitarian. We need to see an end to white actors cast in non-white roles. It's not knee-jerk political correctness — it's justice for years of whitewashing in Hollywood. Recently in *Doctor Strange*, *Gods of Egypt*, *Aloha* and many others caucasian actors were cast in roles written or conceived for people of colour. Let's stop that in 2017.

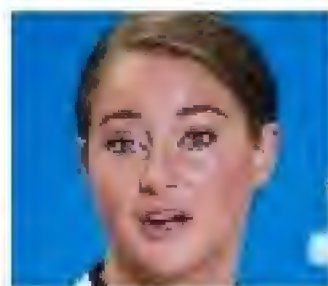
MOVIE RATINGS by Richard Crouse

Hidden Figures ★★★★★
Silence ★★★★★
A Monster Calls ★★★

HOW RATING WORKS
★★★★★ SEE IT
★★★★ WORTHWHILE
★★★ UP TO YOU
★★ SKIP IT

STARS' CONCERNS

So, is the silver screen beginning to lose some of its sheen?

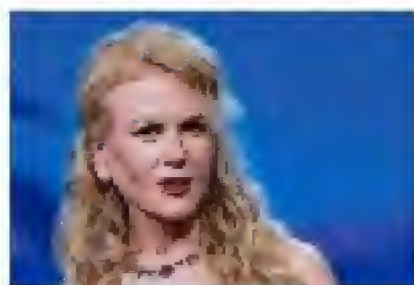


The second you put restrictions on art, you're going to see a shape-shift, because you can't restrict expression. Shailene Woodley



I do feel myself looking in other venues than movies. Movies are just a part of what we do now. Peter Sarsgaard

We make films all around the world, and Hollywood pretty much is of some bygone era now. Nicole Kidman



The cinema I grew up with and that I'm making, it's gone. Martin Scorsese



A tale based on drug-smuggling Mennonites

NEW SERIES

Creator of CBC's *Pure* had hard time selling his idea

What if Walter White was a Mennonite?

Pure, which premieres Monday on CBC-TV, is based on actual accounts of Mennonites acting as drug mules. Various reports suggest some members were smuggling cocaine and marijuana into Canada all the way from Mexico by hiding drugs in hollowed-out car batteries and wheels of cheese.

Series writer and creator Michael Amo (*The Listener*) optioned one such magazine article nearly a decade ago but had a hard time selling networks on a Christian sect version of *Breaking Bad*.

"I couldn't get any traction on it," says Amo, whose Russian-immigrant grandparents

were Mennonites. "I found there was a lot of resistance to the notion that this was even real."

Well-publicized busts involving drug mules in Calgary and southwestern Ontario helped open a few eyes, says Amo. Around the same time, so did the success of *True Detective* and *Fargo*, two dark dramas that proved there was an appetite for short-run series.

Shaw Media developed *Pure* for a while "then decided it wasn't for them," says Amo. That's when CBC stepped in, with the series going into production in Nova Scotia this past fall.

Key to the project was finding the right actor to play Noah Funk, the God-fearing head of the Mennonite community.

"Walter White's journey was all about a good man becoming bad," says Amo. "Our story is about a very good man becoming bad in deed, but always remaining good in heart



Pure, which premieres Monday on CBC-TV, is based on actual accounts of Mennonites acting as drug mules. CONTRIBUTED



Our story is about a very good man becoming bad in deed, but always remaining good in heart.

Michael Amo, *Pure* series writer and creator

and being tormented by all these transgressions."

Amo found his straight arrow leader in Ryan Robbins, a native of Victoria, B.C. with credits on everything from Ar-

row to *Continuum* and *Battlestar Galactica*. Clean-shaven and sporting nerdy glasses, a straw hat and suspenders, Robbins looks the part. On the day of a press visit to a hillside location, director Ken Girotti — who helms all six episodes — has Funk take his frustrations out on a cellphone.

Funk's un-Godly dilemma: he must betray a fellow Mennonite in order to rid his community of drug traffickers.

The plan backfires when drug kingpin Eli Voss (Peter Outerbridge) threatens Funk's family if he doesn't look the other way on the smuggling operation.

"He's trying to be true to his God and his family," says Robbins. "He thinks he can do all this and get back to the way things were before. He very quickly finds himself in (trouble)."

Encouraged by Girotti, Outerbridge (Orphan Black, *ReGenesis*) strives to portray Voss as pure evil.

"We decided I didn't want to have any facial expression," he says. "He should come across as that thing that Mennonite moms told their kids before they go to bed at night: make sure they do well in school or Eli Voss will come and get you."

Funk finds two unlikely allies in trying to bring Voss to justice: a former high school tormentor-turned misfit cop (played by Irish-born Canadian actor A.J. Buckley) and American drug enforcement agency officer Phoebe O'Reilly (Oscar nominee Rosie Perez).

"He's a degenerate, but he's honest about it," says Buckley of his character.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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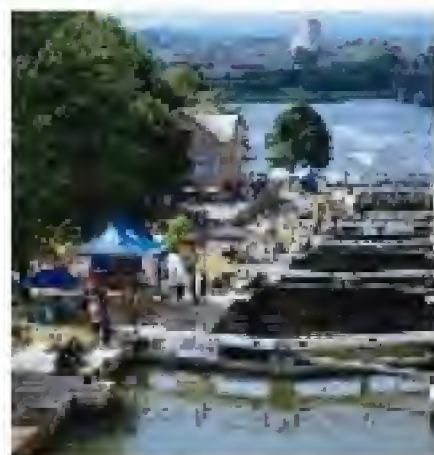
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5 PARKS TO VISIT FOR CANADA'S 150TH

Parks Canada is celebrating the country's 150th birthday by offering free admission to every national park, historic site and marine conservation area from coast to coast. To date more than 1.7 million people have gone online to request a Discovery Pass. The pass represents great value for those eager to explore our country. Here are options for every adventure: **LOREN CHRISTIE/FOR METRO**



1 Best value

In addition to free entry, Parks Canada is offering free lockage on any of its historic canals and waterways. A six-metre boat that would cost \$700 for a season's pass now costs nothing, making this the summer to ply our waterways including the Rideau Canal, Ontario's only UNESCO World Heritage site.



2 Best historic site

The Fortress of Louisbourg on Nova Scotia's Cape Breton Island is the largest historical re-creation in North America. Dozens of staff dressed as soldiers and townsfolk add the colour to the bricks and mortar of this reconstructed fort. The Discovery Pass will save a family approximately \$40 on their entry fees.



ALL PHOTOS PARKS CANADA

3 Best for exploring

Ontario's Pukaskwa National Park offers almost 100 km of trails to help visitors explore its protected ecosystem, which includes a boreal forest and a vast stretch of shoreline along Lake Superior. My father-in-law, who has camped his whole life, lists the views and sunsets from Pukaskwa as the best in the country.



4 Best to avoid the crowds

Banff and Jasper are the most popular national parks in the West. To avoid crowds consider visiting some of the other majestic Western parks, like Revelstoke or Waterton Lakes National Park, an international peace park shared with the United States. With an exceptional diversity of wildlife and a cozy little waterfront town to serve as a home base, Waterton makes a great alternative.

5 Best hidden gem

Quebec's Mingan Archipelago National Reserve Park lies on the far end of the highway on the north shore of the St. Lawrence. It includes some thirty limestone islands, more than a 1000 granitic islets and reefs and an abundance of marine life including whales, dolphins and seals.



THESE SPACES WON'T LAST

There are still fees and capacity restrictions applied to specialty programs and overnight accommodations, including campsites.

The reservations line for the west coast has just opened up with the rest of the country following. Visitors who want to pre-register for specialty programs can contact sites directly in the spring. There's normally no issue, but with the sesquicentennial, record numbers are predicted.

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Family of lion dancers ready to roar

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Ings kick off Year of Rooster at Spring Festival Parade

After Jun Ing performed as a lion dancer for the first time in Vancouver's Chinese New Year parade in the 1980s, he remembers wishing it had lasted longer.

Ing was dazzled by the crowds that came out to watch the traditional art form, in which costumed performers mimic the movements of lions, as well as the "lucky money" in red envelopes he collected from merchants.

Now decades later, his 17-year-old son, Angus Ing, gets the same thrill from dancing through the streets of the city's vibrant Chinatown every year.

"Initially he was kind of reluctant," said Jun Ing with a chuckle. "But when he saw that a lot of people were interested in lion dancing and the crowds and whatnot, he got inspired by it."

The father is the chief co-ordinator of the annual parade, officially titled the Chinatown

Spring Festival Parade, as well as the vice-president of the Chinese Benevolent Association of Vancouver.

This year's parade, kicking off the Year of the Rooster, is set to take place Jan. 29. Featuring multicultural dance troupes, marching bands and martial arts performances, it has become a significant annual event in the city, drawing more than 100,000 spectators last year.

The event also boasts the largest assembly of traditional lion dance teams in Canada. The colourful performers are meant to ward off evil spirits, and they stop at stores along the parade route to retrieve envelopes of cash and bring the businesses good fortune.

Jun Ing said the Hoy Ping Benevolent Association of Canada lion dancer team has performed in the parade for about 10 years. It has become a family affair, with not only Angus Ing taking the reins as the head of one of the lions, but also his 19-year-old sister Alex Ing mastering the drums.

On a recent frigid weekday night, members of the team gathered in the Hoy Ping headquarters to practise. Angus Ing pulled



Hoy Ping Athletic Group members, Angus Ing, front, 17, rolls across the floor as Nick Tim, top, 19, is hoisted by Amen Chan while practicing their lion dance routine for the Chinese New Year Parade, in Vancouver, B.C. THE CANADIAN PRESS/DARRYL DYCK

a large ornate silver lion head over his own, while teammate Ricardo Ho crouched behind him, operating the tail.

Using a lever inside the head to blink the eyes, Angus Ing began to embody the intimidating physicality of the animal. To

the rhythm of an energetic drum beat, he and Ho confronted and play-fought with a pair of fellow dancers dressed as a glittering

IF YOU GO

A map of the parade route and list of attractions are available on the Chinese Benevolent Association of Vancouver's website: cbavancouver.ca

gold lion.

Angus Ing said it takes a lot of practice, athleticism and endurance to master lion dancing, but it's also a "lot of fun."

"You also get to spread the culture to the people that don't really understand it," he said. "It also woos them. They've never seen something like that, all the colours and the bright lights, and also the loud noises and the big kicks."

The performance involves impressive acrobatics too, with Ho, a larger-built man in his 30s, often hoisting his younger teammate high into the air.

In fact, Alex Ing, a University of British Columbia student with a keen sense of rhythm, said she decided to pick up the drumsticks in part because she was too afraid of heights to be a lion dancer. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Oilers forward Patrick Maroon celebrates his third goal of the game against the Bruins on Thursday night in Boston.
JIM ROGASH/GETTY IMAGES

Hats off to Maroon

NHL Oilers tough guy nets three goals to knock off Bruins

Patrick Maroon interrupted his scoring onslaught to accept an invitation to fight six-foot-nine Bruins defenceman Zdeno Chara. "Z" asked me to go. I respect 'Z'. I said, 'Yeah,'" Maroon said on Thursday night after scoring his first career hat trick to lead the Edmonton Oilers to a 4-3 victory over Boston.

"He's a big man. I really don't

THURSDAY In Boston

4	3
OILERS	BRUINS

enjoy doing it. You kind of face it. I kind of knew going in there I wasn't going to come out with a 'W' so I just kind of show up." Chara might have gotten the better of Maroon in the first-period fight, landing at least two solid hits to the head, but the six-foot-three Oilers forward won the scoring battle. He scored 68 seconds into the game, added another in the middle of the

second and then made it 4-2 with nine minutes to play. Only about a half-dozen hats came onto the ice for the visiting Oilers, and they were quickly picked up by the officials. "Growing up and when I first stepped into the league, I never thought I'd score an NHL hat trick for a big guy like me," said Maroon, who had just his fourth career multi-goal game. "But I did it, and my linemates were really good tonight." Cam Talbot stopped 33 shots for the Oilers, who have won five of their last eight. Edmonton took a 4-2 lead into the final four minutes before David Krejci scored on a rebound of Patrice

Bergeron's shot in the last two seconds of a 5-on-3 advantage. But Talbot killed off the rest of the power play with the Oilers one man down. He then blanked Boston for another minute with goalie Tuukka Rask pulled for an extra skater. Bergeron and Colin Miller also scored for the Bruins, and Rask stopped 21 shots. Ryan Nugent-Hopkins also scored for Edmonton. The Oilers next visit New Jersey on Saturday for the third stop in a four-game road trip. The Bruins, meanwhile, will visit Florida on Saturday, the first of two in a row on the road.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WORLD JUNIORS

Team Canada fires blanks in shootout

The United States has won the 2017 world junior hockey championship. Troy Terry scored the shoot-out winner as the U.S. beat Canada 5-4 at Montreal's Bell Centre on Thursday to capture the gold medal. The game needed a shootout after a 20-minute overtime decided nothing. Canada held a 2-0 lead after 20 minutes on goals from Thomas Chabot and Jeremy Lauzon. Charlie McAvoy responded for the U.S. early in the second period and Kieffer Bellows made it a 2-2 game heading into the third. Nicolas Roy regained the lead for Canada less than two minutes into the third and Mathieu Joseph made it 4-2 but, again, the Canadian squad blew the two-goal cushion. Bellows scored his second of the night 39 seconds after

GOLD-MEDAL GAME

5	4
USA	CANADA

Joseph and Colin White tied it with nearly 13 minutes to still play in the period. Carter Hart was in net for Canada while Tyler Parsons started for the U.S. Earlier Thursday, Denis Guryanov scored in overtime as Russia defeated Sweden 2-1 in the bronze-medal game. The Russians have now won a medal for seven consecutive years. Sweden has finished fourth in three straight tournaments. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Caps deny Jackets a piece of history

Columbus delivered a clunker in its try for a historic win. The Blue Jackets lost 5-0 to the Washington Capitals on Thursday night, ending their winning streak at 16 games, one shy of the NHL record. Columbus lost for the first time since Nov. 26, ending a captivating run for coach John Tortorella's team that fell short of the 1992-93 Pittsburgh Penguins' record of 17 consecutive wins. The Capitals kept the Blue Jackets' league-leading power play off the board in five chances, and Daniel Winnik, John Carlson, Nate Schmidt, Andre Burakovsky and Justin Williams

THURSDAY In D.C.

5	0
CAPITALS	JACKETS

scored to chase goalie Sergei Bobrovsky. Bobrovsky had been rock solid during the streak but stopped just 18 of 23 shots Thursday. A game after being pulled himself, Vezina Trophy winner Braden Holtby made 29 saves, giving Columbus just its second shutout defeat this season.

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Rodgers' faith buoys Packers

NFL PLAYOFFS

Green Bay won its last six games to get to postseason

Aaron Rodgers backed up his confidence-boosting "run-the-table" statement with a remarkable six-game run of quarterback play that helped get the Green Bay Packers in the playoffs.

In the locker-room, or on sideline conversations in practice, Rodgers' attitude didn't change. He remained steady, and believed in his teammates whether they were two games under .500 or NFC North champions.

Winners of six straight games, the Packers hope to keep their hot streak going Sunday when they meet the New York Giants in an NFC playoff game.

"The biggest compliment I could give him, he is coming in here every single week and been the same dude," centre Corey

Linsley said Wednesday night after practice. "No matter when we were 4-3 or 4-6 or where we are now, he's never changed who he is. I think having that kind of consistency, with your leader is huge."

A strong arm and uncanny knack to extend plays helps a lot, too.

Rodgers has thrown 15 touchdown passes without an interception during the winning streak. In fact, Rodgers hasn't been picked off since Week 10 in a 47-25 loss at Tennessee.

Keep in mind that Rodgers was hurt during much of

December, playing with either a sore hamstring or sore calf. Both injuries have subsided, as evidenced by how much Rodgers hurt

Detroit last week outside the pocket in a 31-24 win to clinch the NFC North title.

"Inside the pocket he can shred you, he can make all the throws," Giants linebacker Jonathan Casillas said. "To think that such a good passer, you



Packers quarterback Aaron Rodgers scrambles away from Lions defensive tackle A'Shawn Robinson on Sunday in Detroit. PAUL SANCYA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

would think they'd get him out of the pocket, damper him, or put some type of uneasiness about him — but no, he's very comfortable outside the pocket."

Rodgers was 23 of 45 for 259 yards, with two touchdowns and two interceptions in the teams' first meeting on Oct. 9, a 23-16 win for Green Bay at Lambeau

Field. That was back when the Packers were still trying to find their groove on offence.

Those big-play Packers are back, having scored at least

WILD-CARD SKED

SATURDAY

- Raiders at Texans, 2:30 p.m.
- Lions at Seahawks, 6 p.m.

SUNDAY

- Dolphins at Steelers, 11 a.m.
- Giants at Packers, 2:30 p.m.

30 points each of the last four weeks.

But the Giants have changed, too, especially on defence. Just look at how New York flustered the high-octane Washington Redskins in a 19-10 win on the road that eliminated their NFC East foes from playoff contention.

The Giants have the second-best defence in the league, allowing just 17.8 points per game.

"Well, they're playing very good run defence ... and they've got playmakers in their back end," coach Mike McCarthy said about the Giants' improvements since the teams met in Week 5.

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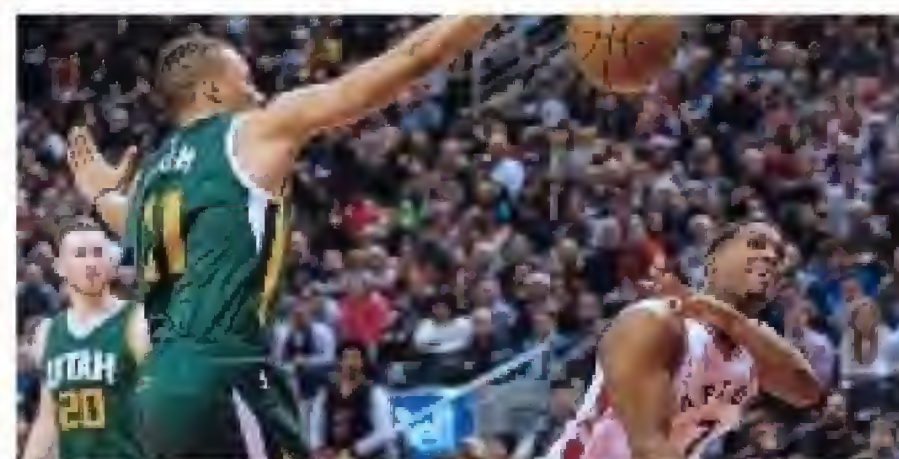
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Kyle Lowry scored 33 points on the night. THE CANADIAN PRESS

NBA

Lowry and Raps leave it late to sink Jazz

Kyle Lowry scored 16 of his 33 points in the fourth quarter to lift the Toronto Raptors 101-93 over the Utah Jazz on Thursday.

DeMar DeRozan added 23 points for the Raptors (24-11), who never led until the game's final three-and-a-half minutes. Jonas Valanciunas finished with 18 points and 13 rebounds, and Terrence Ross contributed 12 points. Shelvin Mack had 17 points, while Gordon Hayward added 16 for the Jazz (22-15).

The game was the Raptors' first in the friendly confines of the Air Canada Centre since a six-game western road trip saw them go 3-3, ending it with an ugly 110-82 loss at San Antonio on Tuesday. But the Raptors got off to a sluggish start, and it was the Jazz who led virtually from

THURSDAY in Toronto

101 **93**
RAPTORS JAZZ

the opening tipoff. A better third-quarter effort by the Raptors pulled them to within 73-71 with one quarter to play.

The Jazz led by six points several times in the fourth before six consecutive points from Lowry.

The Jazz were within a point with two minutes to play before another basket by Lowry, and a rebound and bucket from Valanciunas with just under a minute to play — and the crowd on its feet — all but sealed Utah's fate.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

IN BRIEF

Homan handed another loss in Saskatchewan

Casey Scheidegger upset Rachel Homan 10-4 in the early afternoon draw Thursday at the Canadian Open. Scheidegger, from Lethbridge, Alta., pulled even with three points in the fourth end. She tacked on three more points in the fifth end for a lead she wouldn't relinquish.

Homan, a two-time national champion from Ottawa, has lost both games at the triple-knockout Grand Slam event. She will next face Russia's Anna Sidorova.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Match fixing raises its ugly head before Aussie Open

Match-fixing in tennis is back on the radar, less than two weeks before the Australian Open.

Victoria state police on Thursday charged an 18-year-old man following an investigation by detectives from the Sporting Integrity Intelligence Unit into allegations of match-fixing at a lower-tier tournament in Traralgon, 160 kilometres southeast of Melbourne, in October.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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MAKE IT TONIGHT

Lovely Roasted Vegetable Pizza



PHOTO: MAYA VISNIE

Ceri Marsh & Laura Keogh
For Metro Canada

Fragrant herbs, melted Fontina and roasted vegetables make this flat bread pie a vision of dinner loveliness.

Ready in 35 minutes

Prep time: 15 minutes
Cook time: 20 minutes
Serves 4

Ingredients

- 3 mini potatoes
- 1 small beet
- 1/2 yellow zucchini
- 1/3 red onion
- 1 carrot
- 1 or 2 stalks of fresh rosemary
- 2 Tbsp olive oil
- salt and pepper
- flat bread or prepared pizza crust
- 1 1/2 cups grated Fontina cheese

Directions

1. Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Slice vegetables very thinly, particularly potatoes. Place them on a baking sheet. Drizzle with oil, season with rosemary leaves and salt and pepper. Give everything a toss and then spread them out evenly on the sheet.

2. Bake for about 15 minutes, until vegetables are tender. Remove from the oven.

3. Place flat bread or pizza crust on another baking sheet. Arrange cooked vegetables, including the rosemary, on top. Sprinkle cheese evenly across. Pop the whole thing back in the oven for 7 or 8 minutes, until the cheese is melted and beginning to brown.

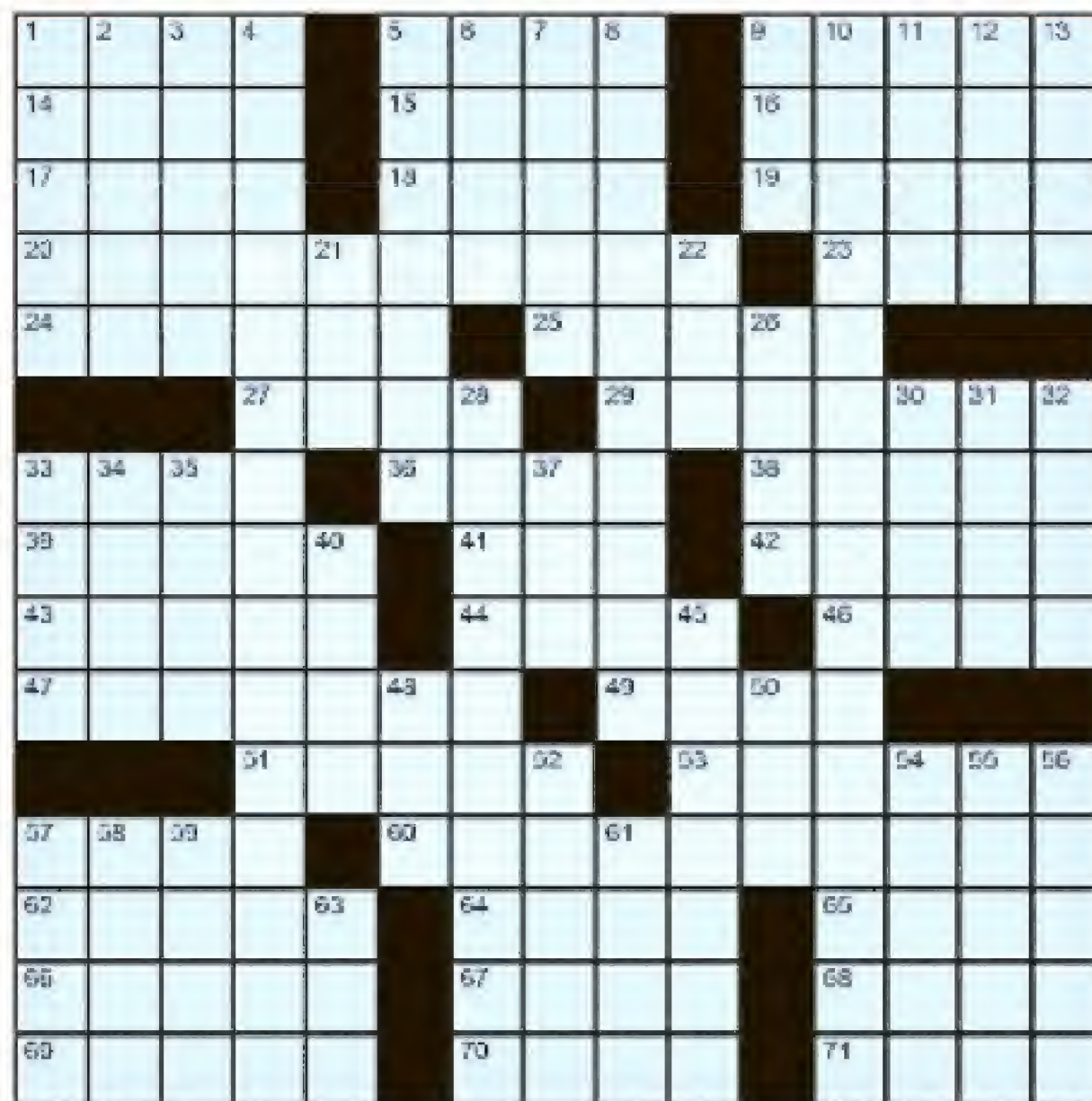
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CROSSWORD Canada Across and Down

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

ACROSS

- The __, Jeff Bridges' role in "The Big Lebowski" (1998)
- Dr.'s scheduled time
- James Cameron directed movie, "The __" (1989)
- Cast-__ pen
- "__ Window" (1954)
- Hope
- __-dong!
- Scotch __
- White wine of Italy
- It is Nunavut's southernmost community
- Staff on a plane
- Feudal lords
- Ghost's quarters
- Ms. Gabor's
- Justin Bieber album: "__ 2.0"
- Paul Bunyan's blue ox
- Brood of pheasants
- Sia song
- Once-__ (Quick inspections)
- Not specialized [abbr.]
- Seal
- Illuminated the candle again
- Actresses Ms. Naldi or Ms. Tallbot
- Traverse the seas
- City in Spain
- Cinch
- Rankle
- Canadian actress/soprano, Deanna __ (b.1921 - d.2013)
- Territory
- Quinoa, blueberries, sweet potatoes and seaweed ...to name just a few
- Space denizen
- Drove
- Type of acid
- Tropical bean tree
- Hosp. heart recordings
- Largest lake of Ethiopia which is the source of the Blue Nile River
- Disagreeable sorts
- Tal Bachman's "So High"
- Dutch for 'city'



DOWN

- "Say that thou __ forsake me..." - Shakespeare
- Dickensian schemer Mr. Heep
- Ms. Pescow of "Saturday Night Fever" (1977)
- Achievement

- such as the CN Tower; 2 wds.
5. __ breads (Hand-made loaves)
6. Ring loudly
7. __ New Guinea
8. Spa specialties
9. L'il notices in newspapers
10. Alternatives to the

- Alfalfa ones; 2 wds.
11. 1917
12. Keep
13. Diving duck
21. Mr. Spacey, to pals
22. Shortened amount
26. "___ Here" by Beyonce
28. John Hancock', and others
30. Latvia's capital
31. Nero's 57
32. Computer company
33. Villainous group in the 'Star Trek' universe, The __
34. Solemnly affirm
35. Mr. Lugosi
37. Vox populi, vox __
40. Twinkler
45. Bond Girl, Ursula __
48. "___ Boot" (1981)
50. Canadian rocker, Melissa __ der Maur
52. Historical time
54. TV reporter from Kazakhstan in the movies
55. "Let It Go" singer Ms. Menzel
56. Visual arts univ. in Halifax
57. Breath mints, tic __
58. __ Bator, Mongolia
59. Puerto __
61. Knife part
63. Tel. book listings

IT'S ALL IN THE STARS Your daily horoscope by Francis Drake

Aries March 21 - April 20
You might join forces with a boss or someone in a position of authority to introduce reforms and improvements to where you work. Why not run it up the flagpole to see if anyone salutes?

Taurus April 21 - May 21
Do not try to coerce others into agreeing with your politics or your religion today. Everyone is allowed to believe in what they want to believe in, including you.

Gemini May 22 - June 21
This is a poor day to discuss how to share or divide something, especially an inheritance. People are too passionate and too emotional.

Cancer June 22 - July 23
Resist the urge to try to give a makeover to someone close to you. This person will not see your suggestions as improvements. Instead, he or she will hear them as criticisms.

Leo July 24 - Aug. 23
Speak up with your ideas about how to improve your job or work environment. Someone might listen to you today. Who knows?

Virgo Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
Be patient with children today. Meanwhile, lovers will find that this is a passionate, memorable day! Oh yeah.

Libra Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Family discussions will be intense today. You might want to deflect some of this energy into making repairs to the bathroom or anything to do with laundry, garbage and recycling.

Scorpio Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Your words are very persuasive today. That's why this is a strong day for those of you who sell, market and write.

Sagittarius Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
Be careful when shopping today, because you might become obsessed with needing to have something. This is not the right frame of mind for spending money.

Capricorn Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
Take a realistic look in the mirror today and ask yourself what you can do to improve your image. Why not look your best?

Aquarius Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Research will reveal secrets today, almost certainly. Deciding what to do with these secrets is your challenge. The most important thing is kindness. Do not harm others.

Pisces Feb. 20 - March 20
A powerful friend might persuade you to change your goals today. Or perhaps you are the powerful friend persuading someone else. A healthy friendship allows for differences and respects them.

CONCEPTIS SUDOKU by Dave Green

Every row, column and box contains 1-9



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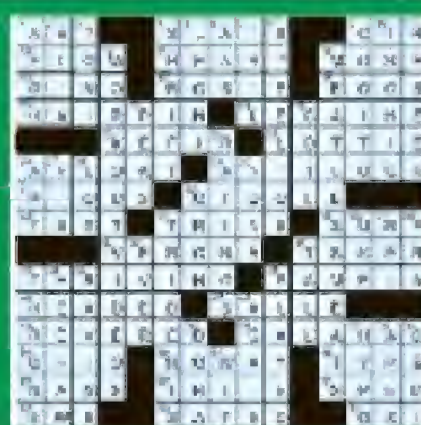
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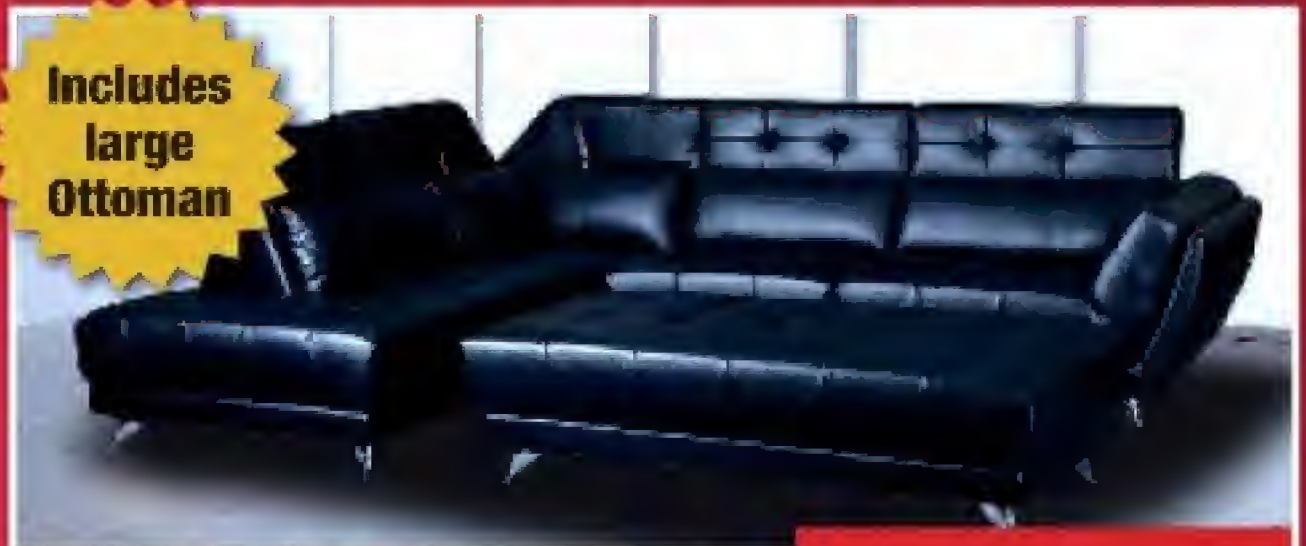


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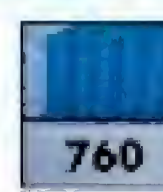
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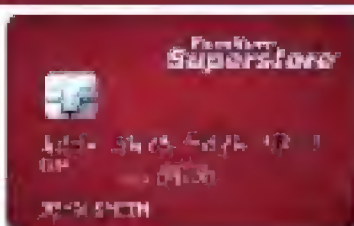


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